

REMARKS

The Applicants and their attorney greatly appreciate the courtesy exhibited by Examiner Anya and Mr. William Thomson during the course of an interview conducted on October 20, 2005. It is believed that the claims in this amendment reflect the discussion and agreement made during the course of the interview. The claims are presented as newly written claims in accordance with the request of Mr. Thomson.

Appended as Exhibit A is a document that was prepared by the principal inventor and discussed during the October 20, 2005 interview. Exhibit A sets forth the respects in which the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art, and the following remarks reflect those reasons as well.

First of all, claim 110, the only independent claim in the application, calls for a plurality of disparate individual golf course reservations which are situated at different locations, along with apparatus that concurrently processes tee-time requests directed from a single user input module to a plurality of the disparate individual golf course reservation systems.

The principal reference relied upon by the Examiner is the patent to Germain. However, the Germain patent is directed to a single golf course reservation system rather than to disparate individual golf course reservation systems, and the Germain system is incapable of concurrently processing a plurality of tee-time requests directed to a plurality of different golf course reservation systems. In the latter regard, Fig. 8 of the Germain patent clearly discloses that golf courses are selected one at a time (block 142), or serially rather than concurrently. Germain thus teaches the polar opposite of what is claimed by the present Applicants in claim 110.

The invention of claim 110 is not only different from a fundamental structural and conceptual standpoint, it achieves significant practical advantages. In this respect, it is evident

that the concurrent processing provided by the present invention results in time savings that are not achieved by the Germain system (see the example set forth on page 4 of Exhibit A – 124 processing seconds required by Germain as contrasted with 8 seconds with the present invention).

For these reasons, it was agreed during the course of the interview that the subject matter of claim 110 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

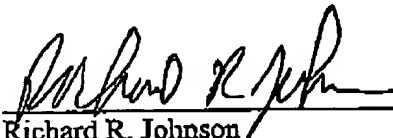
Additionally, claim 110 has been amended for clarity in order to address the Section 112 problems raised by the Examiner in paragraph 3 of the most recent Office Action. It is believed that the wording changes now made in claim 110 resolve all of these problems. However, if they do not, the Applicants stand ready to make additional changes in the wording for clarification.

The remaining claims 111-125 are all dependent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that this amendment places the application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner or his supervisor believes that additional changes that can be made over the phone are necessary, the number listed below can be called at their convenience. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required to Deposit Account No. 11-0160.

Respectfully submitted,

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